

**August 2008**

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE ISLANDS OF ALOHA

### ACCOLADES

◆ Six Hawai'i hotels have made this year's **Travel + Leisure** readers' survey for the "World's Best" awards. On the list of the Top 100 Hotels Worldwide:

- ◆ No. 15 – The Lodge at Koele on Lāna'i
- ◆ No. 26 – Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea
- ◆ No. 27 – Four Seasons Resort Hualalai on Hawai'i's Big Island
- ◆ No. 44 – Halekulani on O'ahu
- ◆ No. 68 – Hotel Hana-Maui
- ◆ No. 85 – The Fairmont Kea Lani on Maui

For more information, visit [TravelandLeisure.com](http://TravelandLeisure.com).

◆ The **Honolulu International Airport** ranked **No. 1** as the most punctual airport followed by **Kahului Airport** at **No. 2**, according to **Forbes Traveler Magazine's** list of America's most on-time airports. The list is based on the 50 busiest airports in the United States. Honolulu International Airport's recognition was based on its 83.7 percent on-time arrival rate and 84.9 percent on-time departure rate. Kahului Airport's performance rate was 84.2 percent. For more information, visit [ForbesTraveler.com](http://ForbesTraveler.com).

◆ The **Intrepid Traveler** honors the **Honolulu Zoo** as one of "America's Best Zoos 2008". The zoo was honored based on its diverse animal collection, special programs for visitors, knowledgeable and committed staff, and excellent exhibits. For more information, visit [IntrepidTraveler.com](http://IntrepidTraveler.com).

## EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

- ◆ **The Hilton Hawaiian Village on O'ahu** now offers the “**Waikiki Lu'au on the Lagoon**” Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Guests are invited to enjoy the live music and the various games and activities including pineapple toss and coconut husking. Prior to dinner, guests are taught a hukilau dance, a traditional Hawaiian song and dance that describes fishermen and their catch. The removal of the pig from the Hilton imu (underground oven) is the last segment before the traditional Hawaiian dinner is served. For more information, visit [HiltonHawaiianVillage.com](http://HiltonHawaiianVillage.com).
  
- ◆ **Hawai'i Food & Wine Paradise** takes place on September 11-13, 2008 at the **Ko Olina Resort** on the island of **O'ahu**. The three-day event includes food, beer and wine stations, live entertainment, and a silent auction. Guests can choose to enjoy a winemaker's dinner with Hawai'i's own chef **Roy Yamaguchi** or a variety of hors d'oeuvres and wine stations. The last day of the festival, the “Paradise Grand Finale,” will feature Hawai'i's top chefs, winemakers and entertainers. For more information, visit [HawaiiFoodandWineParadise.com](http://HawaiiFoodandWineParadise.com).
  
- ◆ **The Kahala Food & Wine Classic** held at **The Kahala Hotel & Resort** on **O'ahu** will hosts its second two-day event “G'day Meets Aloha,” focused on Australia. The event takes place September 12-13, with Australia's very best chefs, winemakers, and cigar aficionados. The event includes *Walkabout: A Progressive Dinner*, *Barbie on the Beach: A Cooking Class*, *The Art of Cigar Blending and Tasting*, *Wine-Ology with Michael Twelftree*, *Sinful Sydney: A Decadent Journey of Food and Wine*, and at the Koko Head lawn, *Puff'n Out-Back*, a lounging experience with a selection of ports, cognacs, whiskeys, rums and dessert wines also available for purchase. For more information, visit [KahalaResort.com](http://KahalaResort.com).

- ◆ **The Kapalua Resort** is the only resort on Maui to offer guests breathtaking mountain to sea activities. **Kapalua Adventures**, a new addition to the resort property, provides visitors a variety of unique activities, including, ziplines, the new “Giant Swing,” the climbing tower that rides between two 60-foot tall telephone poles, a challenge course, hiking, biking, kayaking, and snorkeling. For more information, visit [Kapalua.com](http://Kapalua.com).
  
- ◆ **Maui's Blue Hawaiian Helicopters** has branched out to **O'ahu**, now offering three tours: A 15-minute flight to Waikīkī and Diamond Head at night, a 30-minute trip above Honolulu (Honolulu and Kalaeloa Harbor, Waikīkī Beach, Kāne'ōhe and Nu'uānu), and a 45-minute trip through rainforests, beaches, reefs and valleys, Sacred Falls, Dole Plantation and Pearl Harbor. For more information, visit [BlueHawaiian.com](http://BlueHawaiian.com).
  
- ◆ **The Four Seasons Resorts Lāna'i at Manele Bay** and **The Lodge at Koele** now offers self-guided podcast tours of the assorted art collections held at the hotels. The 30-minute podcasts allows guests to browse the art collections at their own pace and listen to the artists' interviews and descriptions of each piece. The various podcasts can be downloaded on to MP3 players, such as an iPod. A pre-programmed iPod is also available for guest use. For more information, visit [FourSeasons.com/Lanai](http://FourSeasons.com/Lanai).
  
- ◆ **The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas** on **Kaua'i** has a summer program called, “Love Your Family,” fits guests of all ages and runs daily. Activities offered include chi gong (Chinese martial arts) and yoga on the pool deck, nature walks through the resort, and hula lessons. The introduction of Hawaiian sports; surfing, 'ulu maika (Hawaiian bowling), and golf scrambles. Arts and crafts like ti leaf lei-making, sand art activity and coconut postcard decorating, along with a tropical mixology class and a cooking demo are also offered. For more information, visit [StarwoodHotels.com/Hawaii](http://StarwoodHotels.com/Hawaii).

- ◆ Every Monday evening at **The Kaua'i Marriott Resort and Beach Club** guests can experience a new hula and Polynesian revue, called "Hawai'i Alive!" along with its new lū'au dinner. The performance features hula, fire knife dancers, native drummers, and authentic chants and music from Hawai'i's past and present. The lū'au buffet items include Hawaiian Coconut Seafood Curry, Pineapple Fried Rice, and Molokai Sweet Potatoes with a Coconut Glaze. For more information, visit [MarriottHawaii.com](http://MarriottHawaii.com).
  
- ◆ On **Hawai'i's Big Island, Hawai'i Pack and Paddle** has a new-guided tour that offers kayaking and snorkeling. The tour includes free Kona Coffee at a historic mill, paddling, and snorkeling, and dolphin sightings in Kealahou Bay waters. During lunch guests will enjoy stories about the area and a view of the Captain Cook Monument. For more information, visit [KayakHawaiiTours.com](http://KayakHawaiiTours.com).
  
- ◆ **Island Hoppers** and **KapohoKine Adventures** on **Hawai'i's Big Island** has a new adventure called, "Ultimate Volcano Explorer." Guests will board an aircraft to Kona and fly over the active volcano, Kilauea. The aircraft will land in Hilo where guests are met by KaphoKine Adventures and served dinner. Guests are then guided to Puna to observe the lava flow at night. For more information, visit [Kaphokine.com](http://Kaphokine.com).

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- ◆ **Heavenly Spa** has opened on **Maui** at **The Westin Ka'anapali Ocean Resort Villas**. Treatments include liliko'i fruit for the skin, and a Hawaiian pohaku warm stone massage, with balm from a tamanu tree, a great healing remedy. Featured treatments include the **Pearl Paradise**, an antioxidant exfoliation using the combination of a pearl body scrub and walnut body balm to moisturize the skin, the **Rollersage**, combining a massage, heat and energy using a stone sphere massage tool. Heavenly Spa is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, visit [WestinKaanapali.com](http://WestinKaanapali.com).

## TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

- ◆ **Alaska Airlines** has started its year-round service between **Seattle** and **Kahului (Maui)**. Flights from Seattle will depart daily at 8:20 a.m., arriving at 11:35 a.m. Return flights will depart at 1:05 p.m., arriving at 9:45 p.m. All flights to Hawai'i will offer Hawaiian-themed beverages and meal service. Main cabin customers receive complimentary Mauna Loa Macadamia Nuts and a Mai Tai or passion orange guava juice, a Hawaiian-themed meal service can also be purchased for \$5. First class patrons will enjoy exotic meals such as Macadamia Nut-Encrusted Mahi Mahi, and a personal entertainment system with a variety of movies and television shows. For more information, visit [AlaskaAir.com](http://AlaskaAir.com).

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**Special note to media:** The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of Hawaiian diacritical markings (e.g. glottal stop [ʻ], macron [ā] in place names of Hawai'i such as Lānaʻi). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

### **Media Contacts:**

Darlene Morikawa  
Director, PR/Communications  
Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau  
E-mail: [dmorikawa@hvcb.org](mailto:dmorikawa@hvcb.org)  
Phone: 808-924-0259

Nathan Kam  
Vice President  
McNeil Wilson Communications  
E-mail: [Nathan.Kam@MWC-Anthology.com](mailto:Nathan.Kam@MWC-Anthology.com)  
Phone: 808-539-3471